**Waterfall Mirage**

I could hardly sleep as I thought about our sightseeing trip the next day. My family and I had waited for a long time to go on our vacation to California. While I got dress that morning, I thought about all the things that we would see and buy. My husband was the photographer in the family and was very keen on taking pictures.

As we drove along our journey that morning, I saw a beautiful waterfall in the distance. I turned to my husband and said,” Honey take a picture of that waterfall over there”. As he brought the picture into focus, he said “It is not a waterfall, it is a mountain of tires”. I took the camera from him so that I could see it for myself. To my dismay, my lovely waterfall was two huge piles of used tires with a path created between them. As we got closer to the pile, I saw an elderly gentleman. We stopped the vehicle and I proceeded to talk with the man. I asked him why he just stood there staring at the site and he responded by saying, “It was not always like this you know. This was once a very scenic area where people used to come and walk or run, and children played. I used to run here when I was much younger. Now people from all over bring old tires and dump them here. This pile is so big now that my five hundred metre walking distance has been reduced to a few metres. I really hope that the Government will do something about it soon. It is very depressing to stand here and see this.”

I felt really bad about the situation too. As we left the site, the questions that came to mind were: How long did it take for the pile to get this big? What plans are in place to dispose of these tires? How is this huge pile of tires affecting people who are living in close proximity to it? Is there a landscape of tires similar to this one in Canada?